

MUR # 5847

**A COMPLAINT**  
Of Violation of FEC Regulations regarding Candidate Debates

Werner Lange  
Complainant  
Independent Candidate  
14<sup>th</sup> Congressional District of Ohio  
  
Newton Falls, Ohio 44444

vs.

James Foster  
Respondent  
Director  
The City Club of Cleveland  
850 Euclid Avenue  
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

**STATEMENT OF FACTS:**

The City Club of Cleveland, which describes itself as "the citadel of free speech", had some time ago invited both major party candidates in Ohio's 14<sup>th</sup> Congressional District race to a debate at their facilities in downtown Cleveland. The independent candidate and Complainant, Rev. Werner Lange, was not invited. The debate is scheduled for November 2 during the noon hour and both major party candidates are prominently identified on the City Club website as participants in this congressional debate. The independent candidate, Rev. Werner Lange, is not mentioned. Upon learning of this scheduled debate which is restricted to only the two major party candidates, Rev. Lange contacted the City Club of Cleveland several times during late September and early October and requested to be included in the debate. Finally, on October 6, a Mr. James Foster from the City Club of Cleveland contacted the Complainant by mail and invited him to speak with him about this issue. Two phone calls went unanswered, and a third (in the morning of October 12) was successful in making contact. In the course of our conversation, Mr. Foster informed the Complainant that he could make arrangements for a solo appearance at the podium of the City Club at some time in the future. Complainant informed him that this does not constitute fair treatment nor a debate and that he, the Complainant, would like to be included in the scheduled debate among the two major party candidates. Mr. Foster explicitly rejected complainant's participation in the scheduled debate and informed him that he remains uninvited to this debate among major party candidates.

**VIOLATION OF FEC REGULATIONS:**

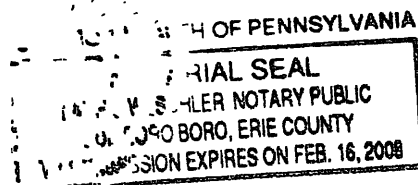
This discriminatory action which intentionally and willfully excluded the Complainant from the debate stands in direct violation of Section 110.13(c) of the FEC Regulations ("Criteria for Candidate Selection") which states, "For general election debates, staging organization(s) shall not use nomination by a particular political party as the sole objective criterion to determine whether to include a candidate in a debate"

Respectfully Submitted on this October 12, 2006 by

  
Rev. Werner Lange

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 12<sup>th</sup> day of October 2006.

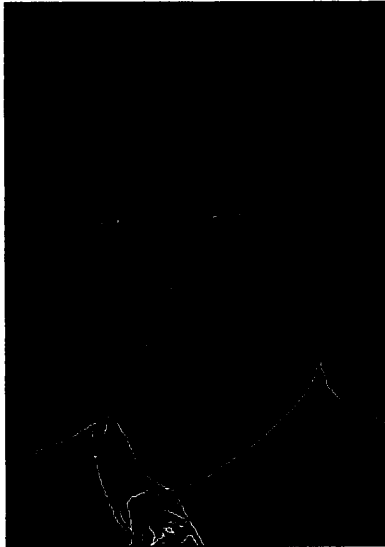
Sworn and subscribed before me this  
12 day of October 2006  
Werner Lange



RECEIVED  
FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

27044164392

27044164393



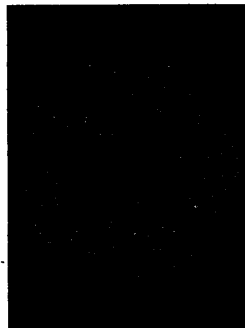
**Debate: Congressional Dist  
Lindsey String**

[Read More  
Reservation](#)



**Debate - Issue 3 Earn and Learn  
Advocates for Both Sides**

[Read More  
Reservation](#)



**Debate: Congressional District 14  
Lewis Katz vs. Steven LaTourette**

[Read More  
Reservation](#)

From City Club website : [www.cityclub.org](http://www.cityclub.org)